

THE LEYBURN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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Gentleman,

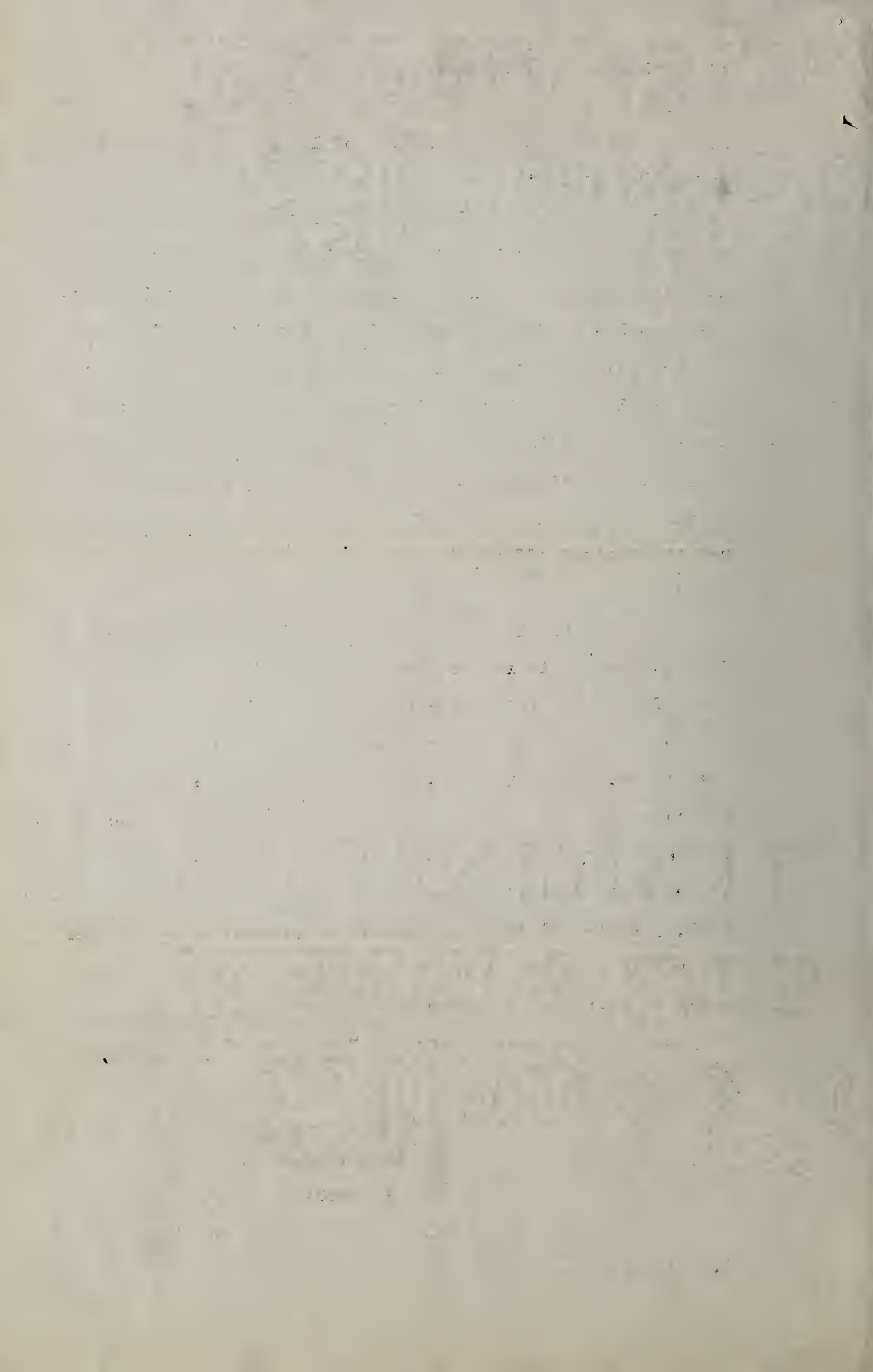
I have great pleasure in laying before you my thirtieth annual report on the Sanitary condition of my district, together with the tables of vital statistics and an account of the cases of infectious diseases notified during the year.

The total number of deaths in the district was 98, giving a rate of 15.85 per 1000. This is 11 deaths more than last year when the rate per 1000 was 14.07.

This is the highest rate since the year 1900 when the number of deaths was 119 and the rate per 1000 17.15.

Of these 98 deaths 25 were over 70 years of age, 10 over 80 years of age and 4 over 90, making 39 deaths over 70 years of age; 1 more than last year, 7 deaths have occurred in children under 1 month 5 of which were due to Premature Birth and 2 to Convulsions, 4 deaths have occurred between the ages of 1 and 5 months, 2 of which were due to Marasmus and 2 to convulsions. This makes a total of 11 deaths in children under 1 year of age, and a rate of 101.35 per thousand births registered, 1 more death than last year, when the total number was 10 and the rate per 1000 births registered was 79.36.

This year a new table (Table 5) has been issued by the Local Government Board with respect to Infantile Mortality and a more accurate account of deaths under 1 year is now required. In 1904 only 3 deaths were due to Premature Birth so that this year there is 1 less death from other causes in children under 1 year of age. Of the remaining deaths during the past year 6 have been owing to Phthisis 3 to Influenza, and 5 to Cancer. December was the most fatal month, the total number of deaths being 16 and February and March came next with



14 and 13 deaths respectively.

The births registered were 108 giving a birth rate per 1000 of the estimated population of 17.47. This is 18 births fewer than in 1904.

The total number of cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the year was 16. This is 4 less than last year and 6 less than in the year 1903. Of these, 10 were scarlet fever, 3 erysipelas, 2 diphtheria and 1 enteric fever. Of the cases of scarlet fever 6 occurred at Garriston, all in the same house, 3 at Middleham and 1 at Leyburn. Both the diphtheria cases occurred at Middleham with 1 death. The enteric fever case occurred at Hunton. It was found necessary to close the School at East Witton on account of an outbreak of measles. This had the desired effect of preventing a further spread of the disease.

On the whole I think that the sanitary condition of the district is fairly satisfactory, but the drainage system of some of the isolated houses might be greatly improved by the provision of properly constructed cesspools, instead of allowing the sewage to escape along improper channels, which are not kept thoroughly cleaned out. The Leyburn sewage scheme is, I regret to say, not yet completed and there are other townships in the district, which in my opinion require a more satisfactory system of drainage than is at present in existence. The number of cases of Infectious Disease is again low and I trust it will always remain so.

Let me once again thank the Inspector of Nuisances for his kind assistance to me during the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant

R. METCALFE M.D.

Medical Officer of Health.

January 26th. 1906.





